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The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The experiment has been made only on a limited scale, and Government felt that it was necessary to give a more extended trial."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know if experiments are not always made on a limited scale?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The point is that we feel that sufficient experience has not been gained for giving a definite opinion in the matter."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the experiment tried at Sembiem has been a success or a failure?"

The Hon. the President:—" If the hon. Member had been here a little earlier, he would have seen the answer to his question in the printed answer itself."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Resumption of Tank Restoration Scheme operations in Tinnevelly and elsewhere.

713 *Q.*—Mr. Daniel Thomas: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with regard to the Tank Restoration Scheme work in the Tinnevelly district—

(*a*) the total number of irrigation works and the total extent of the ayacut within the scope of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations;

(*b*) the total number of irrigation works along with the total extent and annual revenue of their ayacut which have yet to be entered upon for investigation;

(*c*) what progress, if any, has been made in regard to the sanction and execution of the Tank Restoration Scheme proposals regarding 26 irrigation works that are mentioned in a memorial to the Government, dated 6th April 1933, by the Tinnevelly District Association, which have been held up on account of the suspension of the Tank Restoration Scheme; and

(*d*) whether a number of representations has been made to the Government, that the Tank Restoration Scheme work may be resumed in Tinnevelly and other similar districts in view of the proportionately large extents of area still to be investigated in those districts and whether the Government propose to consider their cases favourably?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement giving the figures (except in regard to the annual revenue regarding which Government have no information), as they stood on 30th September 1932, was laid on the table in answer to question No. 477, dated 24th January 1933. Later figures are not available with Government.

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(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 356, dated 4th November 1933. The Government are not aware of the progress made.

(d) Representations were received from the Tinnevelly District Association and the Tinnevelly Mahajana Sangham. The Tank Restoration Scheme operations will be resumed only after a definite improvement in the financial position has established itself.

Representations urging the need for the revival of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations.

714 *Q.*—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with regard to the suspension of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations in the Presidency—

(a) whether, and if so, when the Government propose to resume the Tank Restoration Scheme investigation operations and when they propose to finish the Tank Restoration Scheme programme;

(b) what the annual saving is on account of the suspension of the Tank Restoration Scheme;

(c) what the annual income is from the lands under all the 'Minor Works' within the scope of the Tank Restoration Scheme policy in the Presidency; and

(d) whether a large number of representations has been received by the Government asking for the revival of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations?

A.—(a) & (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (d) of question No. 713.

(b) About Rs. 4 lakhs, less the annual provision now being made under '15. Maintenance and Repairs—Tank Restoration Scheme Works' which is Rs. 1·39 lakhs for 1934–35.

(c) Particulars of revenue derived from Minor Works (including Tank Restoration Scheme Works) are given in paragraphs 4 and 5 on page 20 of the Irrigation Administration Report for 1931–32. Separate figures for Tank Restoration Scheme Works are not available.

Contributions by ryotwari landholders for repairs to irrigation works.

715 *Q.*—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to G.O. No. 773, Revenue, dated 2nd May 1933—

(a) whether the Board of Revenue has issued any and, if so, what instructions to Collectors in pursuance of the Government Order;

(b) whether District Collectors have issued any instructions or orders for the guidance of their subordinates in pursuance of the above

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Government Order, and, if so, whether the Government will be pleased tc place copies of the same on the table of the House;

(c) what the expected annual income is from the contributions to be realized under the Government Order; and

(d) whether it is a part of the irrigation policy of the Government to demand contributions for repairs of irrigation works from ryotwari landholders and whether the Government will be pleased to issue a communiqué explaining their policy in regard to contributions?

A.—(a) *to* (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 711.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT, 1920, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 2 OF 1934).

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, I beg to present the Report[a] of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, for certain purposes (Bill No. 2 of 1934), and move that the Bill as reported on by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

" As regards the changes made in the Select Committee, Sir, I think it is not necessary for me to deal at length with them as they have been all dealt with and explained in the Report of the Select Committee itself which is in the hands of the hon. Members of this House. I wish to take this opportunity for thanking the Members of the Select Committee for the valuable assistance they have rendered to the Government in improving the Bill in the directions indicated in the report."

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I second it."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari rose to move the amendment standing in his name.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" As regards Mr. Krishnayya Choudari's motion[b] the House will remember that on the 2nd February 1934 when the hon. the Leader of the Opposition moved that it should be an instruction to the Select Committee to consider the question of vesting the executive powers of the district board in an executive officer as has been done with regard to district municipalities, that motion was voted down by the House; and therefore the Member will not be in order to move that motion now."

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 13th February 1934.

[b] Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI will move—

'That the Bill be recommitted to the same Select Committee with instructions that the executive officers should be provided for each district board, just like the commissioners of the municipalities.'